

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SERIAL NO.:

FILED: Herewith

TITLE: CONNECTION STRUCTURE OF A NOZZLE AND EXTENSION PIPE OF A  
SPRINKLER

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A sprinkler comprising:

a handle;

a nozzle; and

a connection structure for connecting said nozzle to said handle in such a manner that said connection structure is fastened at a top end ~~with~~ to said nozzle, and at a bottom end ~~with~~ to said handle;

wherein said connection structure comprises:

a connection member ~~formed~~ comprised of a first connector of a hollow construction, and a second connector of a hollow construction, said first connector being provided at an upper end portion with outer threads and a plurality of elastic retaining pieces arranged at an interval, said second connector being provided in a lower end portion with inner threads and being rotatably engaged with said first connector in such a way that said second connector is fitted over said first connector, and that said inner threads of said second connector are engaged with said outer threads of said first connector; and

an extension pipe ~~formed~~ comprised of an outer tube and an inner tube, said outer tube being fastened at a top end ~~with~~ to a lower end portion of said first connector, and at a bottom end ~~with~~ to said handle, said inner tube being fastened at a top end ~~with~~ to said nozzle such that a bottom end of said inner tube is slidably fitted into the top end of said outer tube through said first connector and said second connector, with said inner tube being intimately embraced by said elastic retaining pieces of said first connector as such time when said second connector is fastened against said first connector.

2. (Original) The sprinkler as defined in claim 1, wherein said second connector of said connection member has an upper end portion of a tapered construction.

3. (Original) The sprinkler as defined in claim 1, wherein said inner tube of said extension pipe is provided at the bottom end with a slide block fastened therewith whereby said slide block is slidably fitted into the top end of said outer tube.

4. (Currently amended) The sprinkler as defined in claim 3, wherein said slide block is ~~provided with~~ comprised of one or more washers.

5. (Currently amended) The sprinkler as defined in claim 1, wherein said elastic retaining pieces of said first connector of said connection member are ~~provided with~~ comprised of a retaining projection; wherein said outer tube of said extension pipe is provided at the top end with a plurality of through holes corresponding in number to said elastic retaining pieces of said first connector

whereby the top end of said outer tube is fitted into said first connector such that said inner tube of said extension pipe is intimately embraced by said retaining ~~projectons~~ projections of said elastic retaining pieces of said first connector via said through holes of said outer tube.

6. (Currently amended) A sprinkler comprising:

a handle;

a nozzle; and

a connection structure for connecting said nozzle to said handle in such a manner that said connection structure is fastened at a top end ~~with~~ to said nozzle, and at a bottom end ~~with~~ to said handle;

wherein said connection structure comprises:

an extension pipe fastened at a bottom end ~~with~~ to said handle; and

a connection device fastened at a top end ~~with~~ to said nozzle, with a bottom end of said connection device being fitted into a top end of said extension pipe.

7. (Currently amended) The sprinkler as defined in claim 6, wherein said connection device is ~~provided~~ comprised of, at the bottom end ~~with~~, one or more washers.

8. (Currently amended) The sprinkler as defined in claim 6, wherein said extension pipe is provided at the top end with a plurality of locating holes; wherein said connection device is ~~provided~~ with comprised of a plurality of elastic locating pieces corresponding in number to said locating holes of the top end of said extension pipe, each of said elastic locating pieces being provided with

a locating projection whereby the bottom end of said connection device is fitted into the top end of said extension pipe in such a manner that said locating projections of said elastic locating holes of the top end of said extension pipe.

9. (Currently amended) A sprinkler comprises:

a handle;

a nozzle; and

a connection structure for connecting said nozzle to said handle in such a manner that said connection structure is fastened at a top end ~~with~~ to said nozzle, and at a bottom end ~~with~~ to said handle;

wherein said connection structure comprises:

an extension pipe ~~formed~~ comprised of an outer tube, and an inner tube slidably fitted at a bottom end into a top end of said outer tube, with said outer tube being fastened at a bottom end ~~with~~ to said handle; and

a connection device fastened at a top end ~~with~~ to said nozzle, with a bottom end of said connection device being fitted into a top end of said inner tube of said extension pipe.

10. (Currently amended) The sprinkler as defined in claim 9, wherein said inner tube of said extension pipe is provided at the top end with a plurality of locating holes; wherein said connection device is ~~provided with~~ comprised of a plurality of locating projections corresponding in number to said locating holes whereby the bottom end of said connection device is fitted into top end said inner

tube of said extension pipe in such a manner that said locating projections of said connection device are retained in said locating holes of the top end of said inner tube of said extension pipe.

11. (Currently amended) The sprinkler as defined in claim 9, wherein said connection structure further comprises a connection member which is ~~formed~~ comprised of a first connector, and a second connector, said first connector being fastened at a bottom end ~~with~~ to the top end of said outer tube and being provided at a top end with a plurality of elastic retaining pieces, said second connector being rotatably engaged with said first connector; wherein said inner tube is slidably fitted into the top end of said outer tube such that the bottom end of said inner tube is put through said connection member, and that the bottom end of said inner tube is intimately embraced by said elastic retaining pieces of said first connector at such time when said second connector is fastened against said first connector.